

**What is claimed is:**

1. A method for implementing a Casino patron betting, rating, and investment program,  
said method comprising the steps of:

establishing a casino investment account for the benefit of a casino patron;

making a deposit into said casino investment account;

associating said casino investment account with a financial investment account of  
said casino patron;

redeeming said deposits from said casino investment account; and

transferring said redeemed deposits into said financial investment account.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of making a deposit comprises the step of  
depositing cash into said casino investment account.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of making a deposit comprises the steps of:

establishing a formula for calculating investment rating points to be awarded to a  
patron during game play;

calculating said investment rating points according to said formula during patron  
game play; and

issuing said calculated investment rating points to said casino investment account wherein said investment rating points are redeemable on a monetary basis by the patron for transfer into said financial investment account.

4. The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of issuing said patron an investment rating card that is associated with said casino investment account of said patron.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of making a deposit comprises the steps of:  
establishing a casino system of investment betting chips;  
exchanging money for said investment betting chips;  
placing bets with said investment betting chips; and  
redeeming said investment betting chips for deposit on a monetary basis into said casino investment account.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of making a deposit comprises the steps of:  
establishing a conventional rating account for the benefit of said casino patron;  
establishing a formula for calculating conventional rating points to be awarded to a patron during game play;  
calculating said conventional rating points according to said formula during patron game play;  
issuing said calculated conventional rating points to said conventional rating account;

redeeming at least a portion of said conventional rating points on a predetermined monetary basis for transfer into said casino investment account.

7. The method of claim 3 wherein said step of making a deposit further comprises the step of depositing cash into said casino investment account.

8. The method of claim 4 wherein said step of making a deposit further comprises the step of depositing cash into said casino investment account.

9. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of making a deposit further comprises the step of depositing cash into said casino investment account.

10. The method of claim 6 wherein said step of making a deposit further comprises the step of depositing cash into said casino investment account.

11. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of making a deposit further comprises the steps of:

establishing a formula for calculating investment rating points to be awarded to a patron during game play;

calculating said investment rating points according to said formula during patron ~~game play; and~~

issuing said calculated investment rating points to said casino investment account wherein said investment rating points are redeemable on a monetary basis by the patron for transfer into said financial investment account.

12. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of making a deposit further comprises the steps of:

establishing a formula for calculating investment rating points to be awarded to a patron during game play;

calculating said investment rating points according to said formula during patron game play; and

issuing said calculated investment rating points to said casino investment account wherein said investment rating points are redeemable on a monetary basis by the patron for transfer into said financial investment account.

13. The method of claim 6 wherein said step of making a deposit further comprises the steps of:

establishing a formula for calculating investment rating points to be awarded to a patron during game play;

calculating said investment rating points according to said formula during patron game play; and

issuing said calculated investment rating points to said casino investment account wherein said investment rating points are redeemable on a monetary basis by the patron for transfer into said financial investment account.

14. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of making a deposit further comprises the steps of:

establishing a system of investment betting chips;

exchanging money for said investment betting chips;

placing bets with said investment betting chips; and

redeeming said investment betting chips for deposit on a monetary basis into said casino investment account.

15. The method of claim 3 wherein said step of making a deposit further comprises the steps of:

establishing a system of investment betting chips;

exchanging money for said investment betting chips;

placing bets with said investment betting chips; and

redeeming said investment betting chips for deposit on a monetary basis into said casino investment account.

16. The method of claim 4 wherein said step of making a deposit further comprises the steps of:

establishing a casino system of investment betting chips;

exchanging money for said investment betting chips;

placing bets with said investment betting chips; and

redeeming said investment betting chips for deposit on a monetary basis into said casino investment account.

17. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of making a deposit comprises the steps of:

establishing a conventional rating account for the benefit of said casino patron;

establishing a formula for calculating conventional rating points to be awarded to a patron during game play;

calculating said conventional rating points according to said formula during patron game play;

issuing said calculated conventional rating points to said conventional rating account;

redeeming at least a portion of said conventional rating points on a predetermined monetary basis for transfer into said casino investment account.

18. The method of claim 3 wherein said step of making a deposit comprises the steps of:

establishing a conventional rating account for the benefit of said casino patron;

establishing a formula for calculating conventional rating points to be awarded to a patron during game play;

calculating said conventional rating points according to said formula during patron game play;

issuing said calculated conventional rating points to said conventional rating account;

redeeming at least a portion of said conventional rating points on a predetermined monetary basis for transfer into said casino investment account.

19. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of making a deposit comprises the steps of:

establishing a conventional rating account for the benefit of said casino patron;

establishing a formula for calculating conventional rating points to be awarded to a patron during game play;

calculating said conventional rating points according to said formula during patron game play;

issuing said calculated conventional rating points to said conventional rating account;

redeeming at least a portion of said conventional rating points on a predetermined monetary basis for transfer into said casino investment account.

20. The method of claim 1 wherein said casino investment account is operated and maintained by said casino.

21. The method of claim 1 wherein said casino investment account is operated and maintained by an independent financial institution.

22. The method of claim 1 wherein said financial investment account is operated and maintained by said casino.

23. The method of claim 1 wherein said financial investment account is operated and maintained by an independent financial institution.